

December 2, 1958

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Dear Henry:

I've communicated with Leonard Herzenberg and found him extremely interested in the possibility of an instructorship in genetics, although as Harry Eagle had warned me he has been offered a very attractive position in the NIH itself (in another unit) and is in somewhat of a dilemma. But I suspect that he will accept my offer if it is backed up by an reasonable accommodation in salary and especially in facilities.

The latter is what I want to ask you about. I don't doubt that, at a fair cost, the quarters vacated by Avram Goldtsein in the Anatomy-Pharmacology building could be properly converted and equipped. But the disadvantages are equally obvious, the same I had balked at for my own laboratory, the hindrances to effective contact with the other geneticists and cell biologists, and the wastefulness of duplication of equipment.

It's a poor way to begin to repay you for your innumerable kindnesses already offered, but I wonder if you wouldn't foresee some advantage to yourself in accommodating 'histogenetics' during the next few years within your own space in Radiology -- assuming this would be feasible -- and more particularly Herzenberg's own tissue culture program. Apart from the more obvious advantages, this would carry the overt penalty of my more frequent visitation on my own part. The original inspiration to ask you about this came from your own expression of interest in Herzenberg, and I would have no objection to any administrative arrangements such as joint appointment, if any, that you felt might appropriately accompany the domiciliary ones. Both from your point of view, his and ours the scheme seems to me so plausible that I am sure the chief limitation on it will be whether the space is available. If you are really flush (plein) I would raise the same proposition for Gus Nossal (who will be visiting 1959-61 to continue our work on antibody-formation by isolated cells). I would have in mind reserving the residue at Anatomy for use as a reserve animal house, and for chronic and messier experiments and moving our more refined experimental work as far as possible into the medical center.

Len is coming out to Stanford Febr. 9-12 for final arrangements, and this would be the time to settle the details. I would be delighted meanwhile to learn whether you were sympathetic to the proposal in principle, and in substance to the point where he could look forward to having at least the core of his program in with you. The Anatomy space furnishes a buffer so that as little as 400± ft² together with some expectation of a share in general facilities might be well worth considering as a basis of discussion. (But I am making my own guess on his space needs: don't hold him to it.)